




AFFIDAVIT

Poppy Dawn Bahrs, after being duly sworn, states:

1. I am employed by the Procter & Gamble Company as a legal secretary and administrator in the Patent Division.
2. As part of my duties I assist patent attorneys and agents in the preparation of patent applications for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office and other countries including presenting documents such as Declarations and Assignments, etc. to inventor/applicants for their review and signature.
3. At all times relevant to the filing of the U.S. Patent Application USSN 09/457,847, (attorney docket number 7114), I was responsible for obtaining the signatures of the inventors/applicants on documents required for filing, including the Declaration Combined with Power of Attorney which acknowledges the inventors' role as sole or joint inventors of the present application.
4. Declarations were obtained from inventors/applicants Toan (nmn) Trinh; John William Smith, Raymond Edward Bolich, Jr.; Earl David Brock; Marjorie Mossman Peffly; Helen Bernardo Tordil; Peter Marte Torgerson; Marcus William Altmann; Bruno Albert Jean Hubesch; Robert (nmn) Mermelstein; Ricky Ah-Man Woo; Anthony James Burns; William Tucker Campbell; Alen David Streutker; and Gayle Marie Frankenbach.
5. The Declaration Combined with Power of Attorney from inventor/applicant Christian Leo Vermote has not been signed by Mr. Vermote as his current whereabouts are unknown.
6. In my duties for the Procter & Gamble Company relating to attorney docket number 7114, I have made numerous attempts to locate and contact Mr. Vermote, who is no longer employed by the Procter & Gamble Company, without success. These attempts have included:
 - a) mailing a request for signatures on required documents on 6 March, 2000, including the PCT Power of Attorney, the general assignment and the U.S. Inventors Declaration to a fellow legal secretary located at the technical center in Brussels, Belgium where the inventor was last employed so that she may try to obtain his signatures. I was notified when the documents were returned via inter-company mail at the end of March, 2000 that Mr. Vermote had left the company and that he had not responded to her requests at his home address for signatures to be obtained.
 - a) mailing a request for signatures on required documents, including the PCT Power of Attorney, the general assignment and the U.S. Inventors Declaration to his last known address on 14 April 2000. The envelope containing the documents was not returned to me by the USPS; however, no response was ever received from Mr. Vermote.
 - b) on 18 May 2000, I again contacted a fellow legal secretary located in Brussels, Belgium and asked for her assistance in locating an updated address for Mr. Vermote, but none could be located. She did, however, provide a telephone number.
 - c) on 19 May 2000, 20 May 2000, and again on 21 May 2000, I tried the telephone number provided to me, but received no answer on any of the above occasions.
7. All my efforts to locate Mr. Vermote and obtain his signature on the required documents have been unsuccessful.

Further affiant sayeth naught.


Poppy Dawn Bahrs

State of Ohio)

County of Hamilton)

SS

On this 20th day of July, 2000, Ms. Poppy Dawn Bahrs appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, and after being duly sworn, affixed her signature to this document.



Notary Public

DARRYL CLETIS LITTLE, Attorney at Law
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Has No Expiration Date
Section 147.03